

Pandemic Influenza Planning: Regional Self Assessment

INSTRUCTIONS FOR REGIONAL ASSESSMENTS:

When entering data into the self assessment tool, please note the following:

- 1) The file contains three worksheets (i.e. Instructions, Section I, and Section II) see tabs below
- 2) **Enter your response to each indicator using these options: Completed, In progress, Not started, N/A (use to indicate this is a state responsibility).**
- 3) Please save your self-assessment using the following naming convention "**Your Region's Name** Local Pan Flu Assessment" _date.xls.
- 4) Send the saved file to Neil Twitchell at: ntwitchell@dhhs.state.nh.us. CDC requires state agencies compile the results of regional assessments into a statewide report.

PROCEED TO THE NEXT WORKSHEET

**PANDEMIC INFLUENZA PLANNING
SELF-ASSESSMENT – REGIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH
PUBLIC HEALTH ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

This self-assessment contains activities that are conducted at the state level or regional level, or through a combined effort. Regional capacity can be based on either a true regional capacity (ex. hospital-based disease reporting done by the region's hospital) or by evaluating capacities within each municipality and coming to agreement about the combined capacity throughout the region. Because the level at which these activities take place varies across the state, AHR planning teams are asked to determine for each indicator whether the responsibility for their region lies at the state or regional level (or both) . States are responsible for returning to CDC aggregated results of these regional assessments .

Notes:

1. All references to operational plans or planning in the checklist could refer to the region's separate Pandemic Influenza Plan or a component of an overall All-Hazards Plan.

All Hazards Region:	
Name of Person Who Submitted this Assessment:	
Title:	
Telephone:	
Email Address:	
Date:	

Regional Preparedness Leadership and Networking [Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Goal 1 - Increase the use and development of interventions known to prevent influenza.]	
Elements	Status
The Regional Public Health System has developed a Pandemic Regional Coordinating Committee representing all relevant stakeholders in the jurisdiction and accountable for articulating strategic priorities and overseeing the development and execution of the region's operational pandemic plan.	
The Regional Public Health System's plan has delineated the accountability and responsibility for key stakeholders engaged in planning and executing specific components of the operational plan and includes timelines, deliverables, and performance measures.	
The Regional Public Health System has clearly defined which activities will occur at a state, local, or coordinated regional level.	
The Regional Public Health System has defined the Regional Public Health System's role in providing guidance and assistance to local/regional level.	
The Regional Public Health System's operational plan for pandemic influenza response is an integral element of the overall state and local emergency response plans established under Federal Emergency Support Function 8 (ESF-8) and compliant with NIMS.	
The Regional Public Health System's operational plan addresses integration of state, local, and regional plans across jurisdictional boundaries.	
The Regional Public Health System has formalized agreements with neighboring jurisdictions that address communication, mutual aid, and other cross-jurisdictional needs.	
Legal authorities for executing the Regional Public Health System's operational plan, especially those relevant to case identification, isolation, quarantine, movement restriction, healthcare services, emergency care, and mutual aid, are transparent to all stakeholders.	
The Regional Public Health System has made the process for requesting, coordinating, and approving requests for resources to state and federal agencies clear to all stakeholders.	
The Regional Public Health System has created an coordinated Incident Command System for the pandemic plan that is based on the National Incident Management System.	
The Regional Public Health System has exercised its coordinated Incident Command System along with other operational elements of the plan.	

The Regional Public Health System has identified the authority responsible for declaring a public health emergency at the Regional Public Health System level and for officially activating the pandemic influenza response plan.	
The Regional Public Health System has identified the local law enforcement personnel who will maintain public order and help implement control measures and their leadership is supportive of their role.	
The Regional Public Health System has determined what constitutes a “law enforcement” emergency and has educated law enforcement officials so they can pre-plan for their families to sustain themselves during the emergency.	
The Regional Public Health System’s plans are flexible so they can be adapted to the magnitude and severity of the pandemic and to available resources.	
The Regional Public Health System's plan includes having or having access to information systems that can exchange data, adhere to vocabulary and technical standards, and employ best practices to support the detection of and response to pandemic flu. The plans meet the requirements of the PHIN Functional Areas, Early Event Detection, Connecting Laboratory Systems, Outbreak Management System, Countermeasure and Response Administration, and Partner Communication and Alerting as specified in the 2005/2006 cooperative agreement.	
The Regional Public Health System’s plan has addressed the provision of psychosocial support services for the community, including parents and their families, and those affected by community containment procedures.	
<p>The Regional Public Health System with animal health sectors in its jurisdiction (including but not limited to industry, veterinary diagnostic laboratories, state Department of Agriculture) have developed an operational plan to prevent, detect and respond to reports of disease in animals as a early warning of threat to human health including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o education of and risk communication to the poultry owning public, especially small operations o a plan for surveillance in birds o disease reporting and data sharing o triggers for action to contain disease within the animal sector o triggers to perform heightened surveillance to detect human illness. 	

Surveillance [HHS Pandemic Influenza Supplement 1. Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Goal 3 - Decrease the time needed to detect and report an influenza outbreak with pandemic potential. Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Goal 5 Decrease the time to classify causes, risk factors, and appropriate interventions for those affected by the threat of pandemic influenza.

Elements	Status
The Regional Public Health System conducts traditional surveillance for seasonal influenza (e.g., virologic, outpatient visits, hospitalization, and mortality) including electronic reporting, year round.	
The Regional Public Health System has improved capacity for rapid identification of unusual influenza strains by working with state partners to enhance laboratory-based monitoring of seasonal influenza subtypes.	
The Regional Public Health System has developed procedures to implement enhanced surveillance once a pandemic is detected to ensure recognition of the first cases of pandemic virus infection in time to initiate appropriate containment protocols.	
The Regional Public Health System's animal and human health surveillance systems are linked and routinely share information.	
The Regional Public Health System has developed systems to obtain and track information daily during a pandemic on the following items: o the numbers of newly hospitalized cases, o newly quarantined persons, and o hospitals with pandemic influenza cases o number of deaths o number of discharged patients	

Public Health and Clinical Laboratories [HHS Pandemic Influenza Supplement 2. Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Goal 3 - Decrease the time needed to detect and report an influenza outbreak with pandemic potential.]	
Elements	Status
The Regional Public Health System has instituted surveillance for influenza-like illnesses (ILI) among laboratory personnel working with novel influenza viruses.	
The Regional Public Health System has an operational plan to augment the capacity of public health and clinical laboratories to meet the needs of the jurisdiction during a pandemic should include rapid testing (PCR, rapid POC tests), having or having access to information systems that electronically send and receive test orders and results, support influenza laboratory activities for sample management, laboratory workflow, and results reporting, and integrates with national aggregation and reporting.	
This operational plan has been exercised.	
The influenza diagnostic testing proficiency and adherence to biosafety containment and biomonitoring protocols is assessed in all public health and clinical laboratories at least annually.	
The Regional Public Health System's frontline clinicians and laboratory personnel are aware of protocols for safe specimen collection and testing, know how and to whom they should report a potential case of novel influenza, and know the indications and mechanism for submitting specimens to referral laboratories.	

Healthcare and Public Health Partners [HHS Pandemic Influenza Supplement 3. Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Goal 6 - Decrease the time needed to provide countermeasures and health guidance to those affected by the threat of pandemic influenza.]	
Elements	Status
The State-defined role of public health in coordinating with the healthcare sector in delivery of care during a pandemic has been made clear to the local and regional public health and healthcare sectors.	
Public health knows what the healthcare sector needs or expects of it before and during a pandemic.	
The necessary memoranda of agreement/understanding between public health and the healthcare sector are in place.	
<p>The Regional Public Health System has developed an operational plan for the healthcare sector that addresses the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o healthcare of persons with influenza during a pandemic, o legal issues that can affect staffing and patient care o continuity of services for other patients, o medical supply contingency plans o surge capacity o plans for isolating compliant and noncompliant patients o plans for the protection of the healthcare workforce: ensuring continuity of operations; personal protective equipment; isolation; and necessities: food, water, generators. 	
The healthcare facilities in the Regional Public Health System jurisdiction have exercised a plan for isolating and/or cohorting patients with known or suspected influenza, training clinicians, and supporting the needs for personal protective equipment.	
The healthcare facilities in the Regional Public Health System jurisdiction have exercised operational plans to initiate, support, and enforce quarantine of potentially exposed healthcare personnel.	
All components of the healthcare delivery network (e.g., hospitals, long-term care, home care, emergency care) are included in the operational plan, and the special needs of vulnerable and hard-to-reach patients are addressed.	
A plan for ensuring real-time situational awareness of patient visits, hospital bed and intensive care needs, medical supply needs, and medical staffing needs during a pandemic has been developed.	

An operational plan for provision of mortuary services during a pandemic has been developed.	
The plan for mortuary services has been tested.	
A current roster of all active and formerly active healthcare personnel available for emergency healthcare services is maintained.	
What will constitute a medical staffing emergency has been defined.	
The operational plan to initiate appropriate credentialing of volunteer healthcare personnel (including in-state, out-of-state, international, returning retired, and non-medical volunteers) to meet staffing needs during a pandemic has been exercised.	
The healthcare facilities in the Regional Public Health System jurisdiction have exercised a plan for isolating and/or cohorting patients with known or suspected influenza, training clinicians, and supporting the needs for personal protective equipment.	
The healthcare facilities in the jurisdiction have exercised an operational plan to initiate, support, and enforce quarantine of potentially exposed healthcare personnel.	
Continued in Section 2	

PANDEMIC INFLUENZA PLANNING
SELF-ASSESSMENT – REGIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH
PUBLIC HEALTH ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

This self-assessment contains activities that are conducted at the state level or regional level, or through a combined effort. Regional capacity can be based on either a true regional capacity (ex. disease reporting done by the region's hospital) or by evaluating capacities within each municipality and coming to agreement about the combined capacity throughout the region. Because the level at which these activities take place varies across the state, AHR planning teams are asked to determine for each indicator whether the responsibility for their region lies at the state or regional level

Notes:

1. All references to operational plans or planning in the checklist could refer to the region's separate Pandemic Influenza Plan or a component of an overall All-Hazards Plan.

Infection Control and Clinical Guidelines [HHS Pandemic Influenza Supplements 4 & 5. Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Goal 6 - Decrease the time needed to provide countermeasures and health guidance to those affected by the threat of pandemic influenza.]

Elements	Status
The Regional Public Health System has crafted messages to help educate healthcare providers about novel and pandemic influenza, and infection control guidelines.	
The Regional Public Health System has developed an operational plan to regularly update providers as the influenza pandemic unfolds.	
The Regional Public Health System has tested its operational plan to regularly update providers as the influenza pandemic unfolds.	

Vaccine Distribution and Use [HHS Pandemic Influenza Supplement 6. Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Goal 6 - Decrease the time needed to provide countermeasures and health guidance to those affected by the threat of pandemic influenza.]

Elements	Status
<p>The Regional Public Health System has developed an operational plan for vaccine distribution, use, and monitoring which covers the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Plan for vaccinating occupationally-defined and other priority groups o Storage o Security during transport, storage, and administration o Cold chain requirements o Location of vaccination o Personnel who will vaccinate o Availability of necessary equipment and supplies o Training requirements for involved personnel. o Tracking number and priority of vaccine recipients o Vaccine safety monitoring o Contingency plan for administration under IND or EUA (Investigational New Drug or Emergency Use Authorization) o Address needs of vulnerable populations o Having or having access to information systems to support tracking and allocation of vaccine distribution, use and monitoring 	
The Regional Public Health System has tested its operational plan for vaccine distribution, use, and monitoring.	
The Regional Public Health System has written agreements that document the commitments of participating personnel and organizations in the Regional Public Health System's vaccination operational plan.	
The public--including businesses, education and faith-based communities—are informed about preparedness plans and activities they can undertake to mitigate the effects of pandemic influenza (including information about vaccination as it becomes available).	

Antiviral Drug Distribution and Use [HHS Pandemic Influenza Supplement 7. Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Goal 6 - Decrease the time needed to provide countermeasures and health guidance to those affected by the threat of pandemic influenza.]	
Elements	Status
<p>The Regional Public Health System has developed plans for distribution and use of antiviral drugs during a pandemic via the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS), as appropriate, to healthcare facilities that will administer them to priority groups. These plans cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Storage o Security o Security o Distribution o Tracking o Adverse events monitoring o Contingency plan for administration under IND or EUA (Investigational New Drug or Emergency Use Authorization) 	
The Regional Public Health System has tested its plans for distribution and use of antiviral drugs during a pandemic.	

Community Disease Control and Prevention (including managing travel-related risk of disease transmission) [HHS Pandemic Influenza Supplements 8 & 9. Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Goal 6 - Decrease the time needed to provide countermeasures and health guidance to those affected by the threat of pandemic influenza.]	
Elements	Status
The Regional Public Health System has developed an operational plan to investigate and contain potential cases or local outbreaks of influenza potentially caused by a novel or pandemic strain.	
The Regional Public Health System has exercised its operational plan to investigate and contain potential cases or local outbreaks of influenza potentially caused by a novel or pandemic strain.	
<p>The Regional Public Health System has developed a containment operational plan that delineates the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o the criteria for isolation and quarantine, o the procedures and legal authorities for implementing and enforcing these containment measures, o the methods that will be used to provide psychosocial support, continuity of essential services, and appropriate monitoring of those affected by these containment measures in healthcare facilities, other residential facilities, homes, community facilities, and other settings, and o having or having access to information systems that support the reporting, investigation, control, and prevention of influenza cases. 	
The Regional Public Health System has exercised its containment operational plan.	
The Regional Public Health System has an operational plan to implement various levels of movement restrictions within, to, and from the jurisdiction.	
The Regional Public Health System has exercised its plan to implement various levels of movement restrictions within, to, and from the jurisdiction.	
The Regional Public Health System has informed the public in advance what containment procedures may be used in the community.	

Public Health Communications [HHS Pandemic Influenza Supplement 10. Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Goal 4 - Improve the timeliness and accuracy of communications regarding the threat posed by an influenza outbreak with pandemic potential.]	
Elements	Status
The Regional Public Health System has assessed readiness to meet communications needs in preparation for an influenza pandemic, including regular review and updating of communications plans.	
The Regional Public Health System has developed plans for coordinating emergency communication activities with private industry, education, and non-profit partners (e.g., local Red Cross chapters).	
The Regional Public Health System has identified and trained lead subject-specific spokespersons.	
The Regional Public Health System has provided public health communications staff with training on risk communications for use during an influenza pandemic.	
The Regional Public Health System maintains up-to-date communications contacts of key stakeholders.	
The Regional Public Health System has developed a plan for providing regular updates to key stakeholders as the pandemic unfolds.	
The Regional Public Health System has exercised its plan for providing regular updates to key stakeholders as the pandemic unfolds.	
The Regional Public Health System has developed and maintains community resources, such as hotlines and websites to respond to local questions from the public and professional groups.	
The Health Alert Network in The Regional Public Health System jurisdiction reaches at least 80% of all practicing licensed frontline healthcare personnel and links via the communications network to other pandemic responders.	
The appropriate local health authorities have access to EPI-X and are trained in its use.	
The Regional Public Health System has established redundant communications systems/channels that allow for expedited transmission and receipt of information.	

Workforce Support: Psychosocial Considerations and Information Needs [HHS Pandemic Influenza Supplement 11. Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Goal 6 - Decrease the time needed to provide countermeasures and health guidance to those affected by the threat of pandemic influenza.]

Elements	Status
Agencies that are part of the Regional Public Health System have developed a continuity of operations plan for essential services, including contingency planning for increasing public health workforce in response to absenteeism among health department staff and stakeholder groups that have key responsibilities under a community's response plan.	
The Regional Public Health System has developed a plan for ensuring availability of psychosocial support services (including educational and training materials) for employees who participate in or provide support for the response to public health emergencies such as influenza pandemics.	
THE END	